



PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s) Brodeur et al. Examiner: Thaler, M.H.  
Serial No.: 09/723,852 Group Art Unit: 3731  
Confirmation No.: 6459 Docket: 760-19 RCE  
Filed: November 28, 2000 Dated: December 2, 2003  
For: COMPOSITE TUBULAR  
PROSTHESES

# 19  
P.A. #  
S.B. 12/9/03

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

*I hereby certify this correspondence is being deposited  
with the United States Postal Service as first class mail,  
postpaid in an envelope, addressed to:  
Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450,  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
on December 2, 2003*

Signed: M.J. Mullin  
M.J. Mullin

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated September 2, 2003, the following response is being submitted. Reconsideration is respectfully requested. In view of the following amendments and remarks reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 2 of this paper.

**RECEIVED**

DEC 09 2003

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2900